

Appl. No. 09/ 954,771
Amdt. Dated February 9, 2004
Reply to Office Action of October 9, 2003

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Claims 1-4 (Previously canceled).

5. (Currently Amended) In a bulk vending machine having a base having peripheral walls and a top frame rigidly secured with the base enclosing a coin box on a plurality of sides and supporting a merchandise container having peripheral side walls secured to a container frame, a deflectable lid covering said merchandise container, a first lock securing the mid portion of said lid to said base for resisting upward separation of said container from said base, said base having a vertical front wall pivottally mounted about a bottom front edge of the base frame and interlocking with a downwardly projecting lip of said container frame when the container frame is not separated from said base top frame and providing coin box access when said container frame and said base top frame are vertically separated, the improvement comprising in combination therewith a second lock engagable when said container frame is resting snuggly on top of the base top frame positively securing said container frame to said vertical wall and preventing unauthorized upward lifting separation of said container frame relative to said vertical wall.

6. (Previously Presented) The structure according to claim 5, wherein said second lock is mounted on said base front wall and said base front wall is secured against vertical movement relative to said base by said top frame when in vending condition.

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7. (Previously Presented) The structure according to claim 6, wherein said base front wall is constrained against vertical movement when in vending condition by extending beneath and interlocking with the top frame member rigid with said base.